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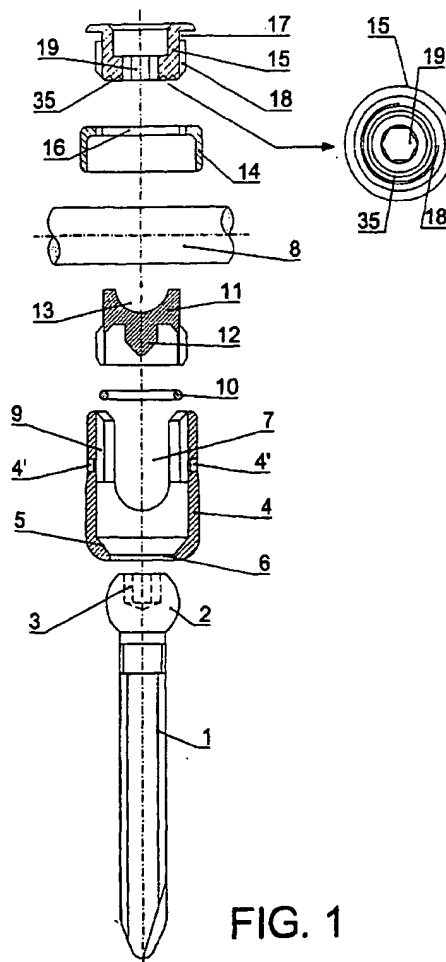
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(54) **INTERVERTEBRAL FIXING SYSTEM USED IN TREATMENTS OF THE SPINAL COLUMN**

(57) Bone implantation screw (1) incorporates a considerably spherical head (2) provided with a blind axial orifice (3), which allows screwing onto the bone with an Allen type wrench, screw head (2) aided by an anchor plate (4) provided with an orifice (6) with a diameter greater than that of head (2), framed by a tronco-conical narrowing (5) on which rests an open washer (10) which, due to the axial pressure of an inner bushing (11) strangles the lower end of screw head (2), thereby locking it onto the anchor plate. Said anchor plate is provided with upper grooves (7) for implanting bar (8) which links the screws, which bar is permanently fixed by a second bushing (14) and a threaded plug (15) which is threaded on the inside (9) of anchor plate (4) and which generates the required axial pressure to strangle washer (10) and immobilise bar (8).



**FIG. 1**

## Description

### OBJECT OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention relates to an intervertebral fixation system particularly designed to immobilise two or more vertebrae by using bars which, suitably configured, are attached to the bone by pedicle nails.

[0002] The field of application of the invention is medicine, and particularly bone surgery, allowing to perform equally fixed, mobile fixations or linking plate fixations which laterally displace the area of fixation of the rod with respect to that of the screw.

[0003] A further object of the invention is to associate to said system means of fixation to the sacrum bone, in order to immobilise it with respect to the proximal area of the spinal column, that is, with respect to its lumbar area, in order to attain a tension-free fixation as the sacrum is of a spongier nature than the vertebrae and therefore less resistant.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0004] One of the systems employed to immobilise two or more bones consists of implanting in these corresponding pedicle screws, each with a head provided with means for attaching to it a bar, which acts as a linking bridge between the various screws, so that as each screw is rigidly connected to the common bar the corresponding bones are thereby immobilised.

[0005] Within this bone fixation system exist three types: fixed, mobile and with linking plate.

[0006] In the fixed system the bar is permanently attached perpendicular to the screw. In the second case between the bar and the screw is provided a knuckle joint which allows to vary the orientation of the bar with respect to the screw. In the third type the bar and screw are related by an intermediate plate which separates them laterally, providing a substantial separation between the aforementioned elements.

[0007] The problems presented by this type of fixation mainly stem from the fact that the means for attaching the bar to the screw are from the start already attached to the screw, hindering the implantation of the screw and impairing the view of the surgeon in establishing a proper insertion of the screw in the bone.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0008] The intervertebral fixation system disclosed by the invention, which may be used with only slight modifications for both fixed and mobile fixations, as well as for systems requiring a link plate, solves the aforementioned problems in a fully satisfactory manner, allowing implantation of the screw to take place separately from the other parts which are involved with it, that is, in absence of the means of attaching the screw head nail to the screw connecting bar, so that it can be implanted in

optimal conditions from the point of view of both handling and visibility.

[0009] For this purpose and more specifically, the screw involved in the system described in its fixed and mobile versions, consists of a functional combination of: a screw having a spherical head which is slightly cambered at its top, meant to be inserted in the bone; an anchor plate which can house the screw head, provided with large recesses for the bar to rest in, and a narrowing mouth having a tronco-conical shape which allows the screw head to pass and causes it to be retained with the aid of an open washer, which is narrowed as it is compressed axially onto the aforementioned tronco-conical mouth; a bushing which acts axially on said open washer and which is pressed in this sense by the bar itself, a second bushing for support and pressure on the opposite area of said bar, and finally a threaded plug which is coupled to the anchor plate mouth and through which is achieved the final fixation and tightening of the assembly. Said plug is provided on its lower part with a circular striation.

[0010] According to a further characteristic of the invention the head of the screw is provided with an axial orifice, blind and polygonal, which allows its implantation in the bone with the aid of an Allen wrench, prior to the implantation of the remaining screw mechanisms.

[0011] From this basic structure the bushing which acts on the open washer may incorporate at its end a polygonal prismatic shaped lug for coupling to the blind orifice of the head in a fixed system, or said bushing may have a hemispherical inner surface in order to establish a knuckle joint with the screw head.

[0012] If a linking plate system is used, said plate will include a housing similar to that of the anchor plate, but shorter and without recesses, receiving only the bushing which compresses the open washer, which will be threaded, while the bushing proper will be attached to the other end of the linking plate, and receives in it a pseudomorse cone which is used as a means for attaching to the link plate and as a seat for the bar, which will be finally fixed with the aid of a second bushing and a threaded plug as in the previous case.

[0013] Said pseudomorse cone extends as a short cylindrical threaded neck which is implanted in the linking plate, which after the implantation is attached by means of a pin and is integrally joined to the plate.

[0014] With the above described structure aids a device for transverse union of bars, which consists of a piece provided with a recess open on the sides, and suitable in shape and size for a implanting in it the bars to be joined, which recess is crossed by a transverse orifice of the piece itself, which is grooved and meant for implantation of the second bar, this piece further incorporating a threaded orifice which opens perpendicularly from the outside of the transverse orifice and which is meant to receive a tightening plug by which one bar is pressed against the other after their relative position is selected.

[0015] In accordance with the described structure the implantation of the screw is made simple and convenient, with a perfect visibility for the surgeon of the work area, as well as ensuring an ideal structural rigidity for the assembly, that is, a perfect immobilisation of the rod with respect to the screw, without danger of unwanted motion of the cones to be joined, with a minimal effort required of the doctor as well as a minimal time of intervention, and the further possibility of conveniently stiffening with respect to each other of the bars which are part of the system after they are correctly positioned, all of this with the particular characteristic that the multiple parts which participate in the system to achieve fixation of the various elements are supplied to the doctor in a pre-assembled state, suitably connected to each other so that the doctor need only perform the tightening operations after each is correctly placed.

[0016] In an alternative embodiment, the open washer which is axially pressed against the truncated conical opening of the anchor plate is absent and the bushing which is axially acting on the washer has a tronco-conical lower area sectioned into segments which can deform upon tightening in order to allow a previous passage of the spherical screw head and to then clip onto said head, so that it remains attached to and joined to the system.

[0017] Additionally, a complementary element is provided which allows fixation of the corresponding bar relating the sacrum to the lumbar vertebra(e) without any tension whatsoever.

[0018] More specifically, fixation to the sacrum is based on the use of a template which after fixing the bar to the lumbar area of the spine allows to set the exact point at which the screw must be implanted, as well as its orientation, although the angle of the sacrum screws need not be precise since it must adapt to the screw head to form a knuckle. For this is used an angular linking plate, shaped so that it absorbs the angle formed by the spine where the sacrum meets the lumbar vertebrae, which linking plate is provided at one of its ends with a transverse orifice for coupling of the spinal fixation bar, an orifice which has a toothed inner face to improve grip on the bar, and which is crossed by a threaded orifice for implantation of a tightening screw, preferably with an Allen type head, while on the other end of the linking plate are established the means of attachment to the screw head.

[0019] Such fixation means comprise a housing with a tronco-conical narrowing opening, through which may pass freely the screw head so that it can be implanted in the bone prior to coupling of the linking plate, establishing inside said housing with a threaded side wall an open washer whose diameter in a relaxed state is greater than both the diameter of the screw head and the diameter of the narrowed opening of the housing, also allowing passage through it of the screw head, this assembly complemented by an externally threaded bushing which is preferably provided with Allen operation

means, and the tightening of which causes an axial displacement of the washer with its ensuing strangulation on the screw head and fixation of the latter, with the bushing having a hemispherical housing as a seat for the screw head which allows a knuckle joint movement of these elements prior to the final tightening of the assembly.

[0020] The particular configuration of the linking plate and the fixation means to both the screw head and the bar linking it to the rest of the spine make this fixation free of tensions which may damage the sacrum in the area of implantation of the screw.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0021] The characteristics of the present invention will be better understood in view of the accompanying drawings made of a preferred embodiment of the invention, where for purposes of illustration only and as an integral part of the description the following is shown:

Figure 1.- Shows a perspective exploded view of an intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments in accordance with the present invention, in which some of its elements are shown in a diametric cross section, according to a first embodiment where a fixed system is taught.

Figure 2.- Shows the same assembly of the previous figure duly assembled and in cross section.

Figures 3 and 4.- Show similar representations to figures 1 and 2 corresponding here to the mobile system embodiment.

Figures 5 and 6.- Shows representations also similar to those of figures 1 and 2 here corresponding to the system which uses a linking plate.

Figure 7.- Shows a side elevation view of the device meant for transverse union of bars which is also part of the system of the invention.

Figure 8.- Shows a detail of a transverse section of the device of the previous figure along the A-B line of said figure.

Figure 9.- Shows the transverse union device fully assembled together with the element which keeps all components united, which is shown in an independent perspective view.

Figure 10.- Shows a side elevation and sectional view of the linking plate which participates in the fixation system to the sacrum bone, on which are coupled the screw head and the bar which bypasses and stiffens the sacrum to other vertebra(e) of the spine.

Figure 11.- Shows a plan view of said linking plate of the previous figure, here lacking the screw fixing it to the sacrum and the bar, as well as the latter's tightening screw.

Figure 12.- Shows a side elevation view of the bushing which presses and holds the screw head in an alternative embodiment for a mobile system.

Figure 13.- Shows a side elevation and sectional view of the bushing of the previous figure for a fixed system.

Figure 14.- Shows the assembly of the bushing of figure 12 onto the corresponding anchor plate which is part of the system object of the invention.

## PREFERRED EMBODIMENT OF THE INVENTION

[0022] In view of these figures, and more specifically of figures 1 and 2, the intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments disclosed by the invention comprises a screw (1), to be inserted in the bone, provided with a spherical head (2), provided with an axial blind orifice (3), with a polygonal section, to allow its implantation in the bone with the aid of an Allen wrench. Meant to be coupled to head (2) of screw (1) is an anchor plate (4) which is provided at its proximal end with respect to the screw with a tronco-conical narrowing (5), with this narrowing defining an orifice (6) which allows to pass screw head (2), and said anchor plate further incorporating large recesses (7), diametrically aligned, which allow implantation of bar (8), which is the actual piece which joins the vertebrae, as well as an inner threading (9) in the area which frames said recesses (7).

[0023] Anchor plate (4), is meant to receive within it an open washer (10) with a diameter in a relaxed state similar to the inner diameter of the lower sector of anchor plate (4), meant to narrow radially onto the lower area of screw head (2) by axial displacement of a bushing (11), which is basically cylindrical as anchor plate (4), and provided with a circular front for support on washer (10), provided with an axial lug (12), which emerges from its base and couples in blind orifice (3) of screw head (2), and through which these elements are immobilised, and further provided with an upper plate (13) where bar (8) rests.

[0024] Thus, plate (13) of bushing (11) is meant to support bar (8) and the axial pressure which is exerted through a second bushing (14) by a threaded plug (15) coupled to threaded opening (9) of the anchor plate (4), which bushing (14) is provided at its base with a threaded orifice (16) which allows it to remain attached to plug (15), which in turn for such purpose is provided with a smooth neck (17) set back with respect to its own threaded sector (18), where bushing (14) is inserted but free. Said plug (15) also incorporates an axial, polygonal orifice (19) which can be driven by means of an Allen

wrench as that used to implant screw (1). Said part (15) is provided on its lower area with a circular striation meant to ensure its grip on bar (8), which is also striated.

[0025] Anchor plate (4) is provided with a pair of lateral recesses (4') which after insertion of part (11) are recut so that said bushing (11) cannot exit nor turn, remaining positioned so that it may properly receive bar (8).

[0026] The above described structure is essentially repeated for a mobile fixation system, except that here bushing (11'), equivalent to bushing (11) of the previous case, instead of incorporating the latter's axial lug (13) incorporates a hemispherical inner surface (20) with a curvature in accordance to that of screw head (2), thereby establishing a knuckle joint between the two which allows to change the fixed situation of the previous case with bar (8) perpendicular to screw (1), so that the bar may adopt the optimal inclination with respect to the direction of the screw.

[0027] In addition and as represented in figures 5 and 6, when the system incorporates a linking plate (21) this shall be provided with a housing (22) similar to the lower sector of anchor plate (4) of the previous cases, with the same narrowing tronco-conical opening (5) and equally provided with a threading (23) for coupling of a bushing (11"), also similar to bushing (11) of the fixed system with the same axial lug (12) but with an external thread for implantation in berth (22) of plate (21), and more specifically for axial pressure on open washer (10), causing it to strangle on head (2) of screw (1).

[0028] In a different sector of lining plate (21) is provided a threaded orifice (24) for attachment to the plate of anchor plate (4"), which here configures a lower housing (25) for a pseudomorse cone (26) with a tronco-conical sector (27) and a threaded neck (28), between which is defined a neck (29) meant to immobilise pseudomorse cone (26) in order to ensure that when it is pressed on by the bar it will form a single rigid body, which will be supplied to the doctor suitably coupled to anchor plate (4"), with the free end of neck (28) riveted to prevent its decoupling from said anchor plate, but allowing a certain mobility so that bar (8) may be suitably directed, with the doctor performing the final fixation with the aid of a set screw (62) which moves in a lateral orifice (61) of plate (21), open towards orifice (24), meant to act on said neck (29) and more specifically to permanently immobilise anchor plate (4") with respect to plate (21), said cone (26) determining the seat for bar (8) which is similarly attached with the aid of bushing (14) and threaded plug (15) in sector (8) of said anchor plate (4').

[0029] In addition to the described structure the system further includes a device for transverse union of the bars, represented in figures 7 and 8, which consists of a part (30) provided with a laterally open, concave, approximately C-shaped housing (31) for coupling and resting of one of bars (8) to be joined, which housing (31) is crossed by a transverse orifice (32), slit in the

same sense as housing (31) and meant to receive the second bar (8'), with the final locking of the bars after their correct mutual positioning obtained with a threaded plug (33) which is coupled to an also threaded orifice (34) of part (30) which presses bar (8') against bar (8).

**[0030]** Figure 9 shows the transverse bar union device finally assembled, which comprises a cap (37) suited in shape and size to be coupled to the top of part (30) in order to prevent the latter from separating from bar (8') and retaining threaded plug (33), so that the transverse union device is mounted before or after its installation on bars (8), considerably simplifying its handling.

**[0031]** For this purpose cap (37) is provided on its top base with an orifice (38) through which can be accessed plug (33) so that it may be threaded, and is further provided with respective orifices (39) and (39') for passage of bar (8') through it and through transverse orifice (32). Cap (37) keeps together part (30), bar (8') and threaded plug (33), as bar (8') cannot move since it is inserted in said orifices, while cap (37) retains inside it threaded plug (33) but allows its axial displacement with respect to orifice (34) so that it may exert or release the pressure on bar (8).

**[0032]** To prevent part (30) and the elements joined to it from being removed through the ends of bar (8'), these ends are expanded or oversized, or any element which increases their diameter is added, characteristic which has not been represented in the figures.

**[0033]** It only remains to point out that head (2) of screw (1) has striations to ensure stability of the assembly after it is tightened, and that bar (8) has a striated surface for the same purpose of providing a proper stability after it is fixed.

**[0034]** In addition to the described system, a method of attachment to the sacrum has been designed and shown in figures 10 and 11, which has as a basic element a linking plate (40) embodied as a part with two end sectors (43) and (44), the first provided with a housing (45) for head (46) of the sacrum implantation screw, and the second provided with an orifice (47) for implantation of the bar (48) meant to relate and attach the sacrum to one or more spinal vertebrae, with the particular characteristic, as seen in figure 9, that the two sectors (43) and (44) of said part form a suitable angle to compensate the angle between the sacrum and the rest of the spine.

**[0035]** Housing (45) for screw head (46), basically cylindrical, has a tronco-conical narrowing (49) at the end where it meets the sacrum, and a threaded sector (50) on the opposite end, with opening (51) defined by said tronco-conical narrowing (49) having a diameter greater than that of the spherical screw head (46) in order to allow the implantation of said screw in the sacrum prior to assembly on it of linking plate (40), with the truncated cone plane of narrowing (49) specifically meant to strangle an open washer (52) which rests on it, which when relaxed also has a diameter greater than that of the screw head (46) so that said head may pass through it,

and which is axially displaced with the aid of a bushing (53), interiorly defining a cambered hemispherical housing (54) to allow a knuckle movement of head (46) of the screw, and which is provided with an external thread for attachment to threaded sector (50) of housing (45), and is further provided on its base with a polygonal orifice (55) for driving with an Allen wrench, all such that after screw head (46) is implanted in housing (45) and after the linking plate (40) is properly orientated with respect to axis (56) of said screw, the pressure applied by bushing (53) causes an axial displacement of washer (52) and its strangulation on the neck of the screw with the ensuing locking of the assembly, which locking is favoured by the presence of annular teeth (57) on screw head (46) which bite into the surface of housing (54) of bushing (53).

**[0036]** Furthermore, orifice (47) for implantation and fixation of bar (48) which links the linking plate attached to the sacrum to the adjacent area of the spine, has an inner surface provided with striations (58) meant to improve the grip on said bar, specifically when it is pressed in its housing by a screw (59) preferably with an Allen type head, which is threaded in an orifice (60) of sector (44) of linking plate (40), which opens perpendicularly towards orifice (47) for implantation of said bar.

**[0037]** Figures 12, 13 and 14 show an alternative embodiment for bushing (11) or (11'), when the system is not provided with open washer (10).

**[0038]** Specifically, in this case bushing (11a) is conical at its lower area and is divided into sectors (63) which allow deformation of the part when it is tightened and meets conical area (5) of anchor plate (4), which allows entry of spherical head (2) of screw (3), and clips when pressing said bushing (11a) against anchor plate (4), making the conical areas clamp spherical head (2) of screw (3), so that the latter is fixed in place and attached to the system.

**[0039]** As described above bushing (11a) can be used for the fixed system, while bushing (11'a) can be used in the mobile system, in which case it is provided with a central and inner appendix (64), being in all other ways including its function identical to bushing (11a).

**[0040]** The assembly is delivered assembled, so that its disassembly requires special clamps, first loosening the system and then, through the groove of anchor plate (4) through which the bushing projects slightly, the special clamp is used on the threads, taking care not to move the bushing and lock it when pulling on the screw, thereby allowing exit of the screw.

## Claims

1. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, which includes pedicle screws (1) having a spherical head (2) provided with a blind axial orifice (3) with a polygonal section, said screws (1) to be implanted in the bone, to which are attached bars act-

- ing as a linking means between the various screws for relative immobilisation of the corresponding bones, fixation system this which may be fixed or mobile, and including a complement for fixation of the sacrum, **characterised in that** the spherical head (2) of the screw (1) is aided by an anchor plate (4) which in its area proximal to screw (1) is provided with a tronco-conical narrowing opening (5) which defines an orifice (6) with a diameter greater than that of screw head (2), and with said anchor plate (4) designed to house within it a bushing (11) on which rests bar (8) to be fixed, , with an additional bushing (14) acting on the external area corresponding to bar (8), and axially pressed by a plug (15) which is threaded onto the also threaded opening (9) of anchor plate (4), which is provided with lateral recesses (4') to prevent separation or rotation of bushing (11) after it is inserted in anchor plate (4).
2. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, as claimed in claim 1, **characterised in that** for a fixed system bushing (11) includes an inner lug (12) emerging axially from its base, with a section having the same configuration as blind orifice (3) of screw head (2) for the relative immobilisation of these two elements.
  3. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, as claimed in claim 1, **characterised in that** for a mobile fixation system bushing (11') has a concave inner surface (20) with a hemispherical shape, defining a knuckle type joint with head (2) of screw (1).
  4. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, as claimed in previous claims, **characterised in that** the anchor plate (4) houses within it an open washer (10) so that the axial displacement of the bushing (11) causes a strangulation of the washer (10) on the lower area of screw head (2) and the ensuing locking of the latter onto the anchor plate (4).
  5. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, which includes pedicle screws (1) having a spherical head (2) provided with a blind axial orifice (3) with a polygonal section, said screws (1) to be implanted in the bone, to which are attached bars acting as a linking means between the various screws for relative immobilisation of the corresponding bone, fixation system which is aided by a linking plate **characterised in that** the linking plate (21) includes on one of its ends a housing (22) which in its area proximal to screw (1) is provided with a tronco-conical narrowing opening (5), with an inner threading (23) for receiving bushing (11"), which is in turn provided with an external threading and which acts as a strangulation means of open washer (10) onto the screw head, while on the other end of the linking plate (21) is defined a threaded orifice (24) for fixation of an anchor plate (4"), here provided with a tronco-conical housing (25) for a pseudomorse cone (26), provided with a threaded neck (28) for fixation to orifice (24) and on which rests bar (8), which is also fixed with the aid of an upper bushing (14) and the complementary plug (15) for axial tightening.
  6. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, as claimed in claim 5, **characterised in that** between tronco-conical sector (27) and cylindrical threaded sector (28) of pseudomorse cone (26) is provided a perimetral neck (29) which after assembly of said cone (26) on the threaded orifice (24) of linking plate (21) is facing an also threaded lateral orifice (61) of plate (21), in which lies a pin (62) which permanently immobilises cone (26) and anchor plate (4") with respect to base plate (21).
  7. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, as claimed in previous claims, **characterised in that** the lower part of plug (15) is striated to improve the grip when it is tightened, while bar (8) which connects the screws is also striated for a similar purpose.
  8. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, as claimed in previous claims, **characterised in that** in it also participates a transverse bar linking device, embodied as a part (30) provided with a lateral recess (31) with a concave shape, transversally elongated with respect to its opening and meant to house on of bars (8) to be linked, said recess (31) crossed by a transverse orifice (32) which is also grooved in the same direction, meant for implantation of the second bar (8') to be joined to the first, with part (30) including a threaded orifice (34) perpendicular to both recess (31) and orifice (32), and in which is placed a threaded plug (33) for tightening one bar (8') against the other bar (8) at the point where they cross, further aiding in this a cap (37) sized and shaped so that it couples to the top of part (30), to bar (8') and to threaded plug (33) during implantation or removal of the transverse linking device, but which allows the axial displacement of threaded plug (33), for which cap (37) is provided on its top base with an orifice (38) for access to threaded plug (33), and with orifices (39 - 39') for passage of bar (8').
  9. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, as claimed in previous claims, **characterised in that** the component parts are pre-assembled prior to their final assembly.
  10. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments,

as claimed in previous claims, **characterised in that** tightening plug (15) implies fixation of anchor plate (4) against screw (1) with the assembly forming a single piece.

11. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, as claimed in claim 1, **characterised in that** the initial fixation of screw (1) and anchor plate (4) is aided by an open washer (10) which is forced open to allow passage of the head of screw (1), and which closes firmly when said washer passes the largest diameter of the head of screw (1).
12. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, as claimed in claim 8, **characterised in that** the ends of bars (8') are widened or have attached elements which increase their diameter to prevent the their accidental exit from linking parts (30).
13. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, as claimed in claim 1, **characterised in that** the complement for fixation to the sacrum consists of a linking plate (40) meant to relate sacrum implantation screw (46) to the corresponding bar (48), adopting said linking plate an angular configuration so that between the area (43) of implantation of screw head (46) and area (44) of implantation of bar (48) is defined an angle which compensates the anatomical angle between the sacrum and the lumbar area of the spine, establishing at these ends (43) and (44) of linking plate (40) fixation means for head (46) of the screw and for bar (48).
14. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, as claimed in claim 13, **characterised in that** linking plate (40) incorporates as a means of fixation of screw head (43) a basically cylindrical housing (45) with a narrowed tronco-conical opening (49) at the height where it adapts to the sacrum, with a diameter greater than that of the screw spherical head (46), and on which tronco-conical surface (49) lies an open washer (52) which in its relaxed state has a greater diameter than the screw head to allow coupling of the linking plate to it after implanting said screw to the sacrum, and which strangles onto the neck of said screw head by action of a bushing (53) provided with a hemispherical housing (54), which defines a knuckle joint for the screw head, which bushing is threaded in the inner wall of housing (45) and is provided with an Allen type head (55) for its driving during the tightening operation.
15. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, as claimed in claims 13 and 14, **characterised in that** linking plate (40) has as fixation means to bar (48) a basically cylindrical orifice (47) through which opens radially a further orifice (60), this one threaded, in which is a screw (59), preferably Allen type,

which presses bar (48) against the wall of orifice (47), which wall is provided with angular means (58) to improve grip on said bar (48).

16. Intervertebral fixation system for spinal treatments, as claimed in claims 1 to 3, **characterised in that** both bushing (11a) in the fixed system and bushing (11'a) in the mobile system are divided into sectors (63) which may deform to allow passage of head (2) of screw (1) and the later clipping of said head to hold the screw and attach it to the system.

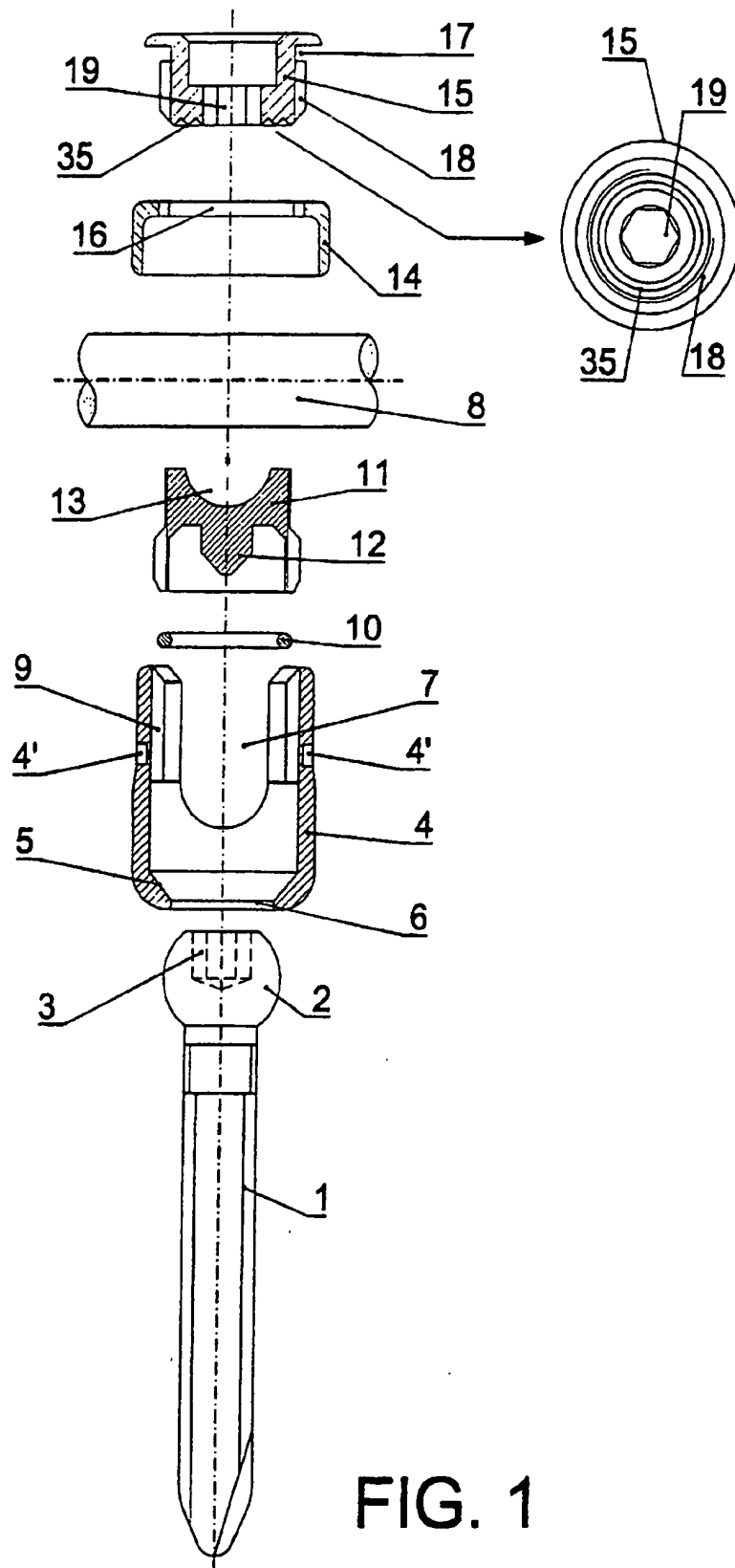


FIG. 1



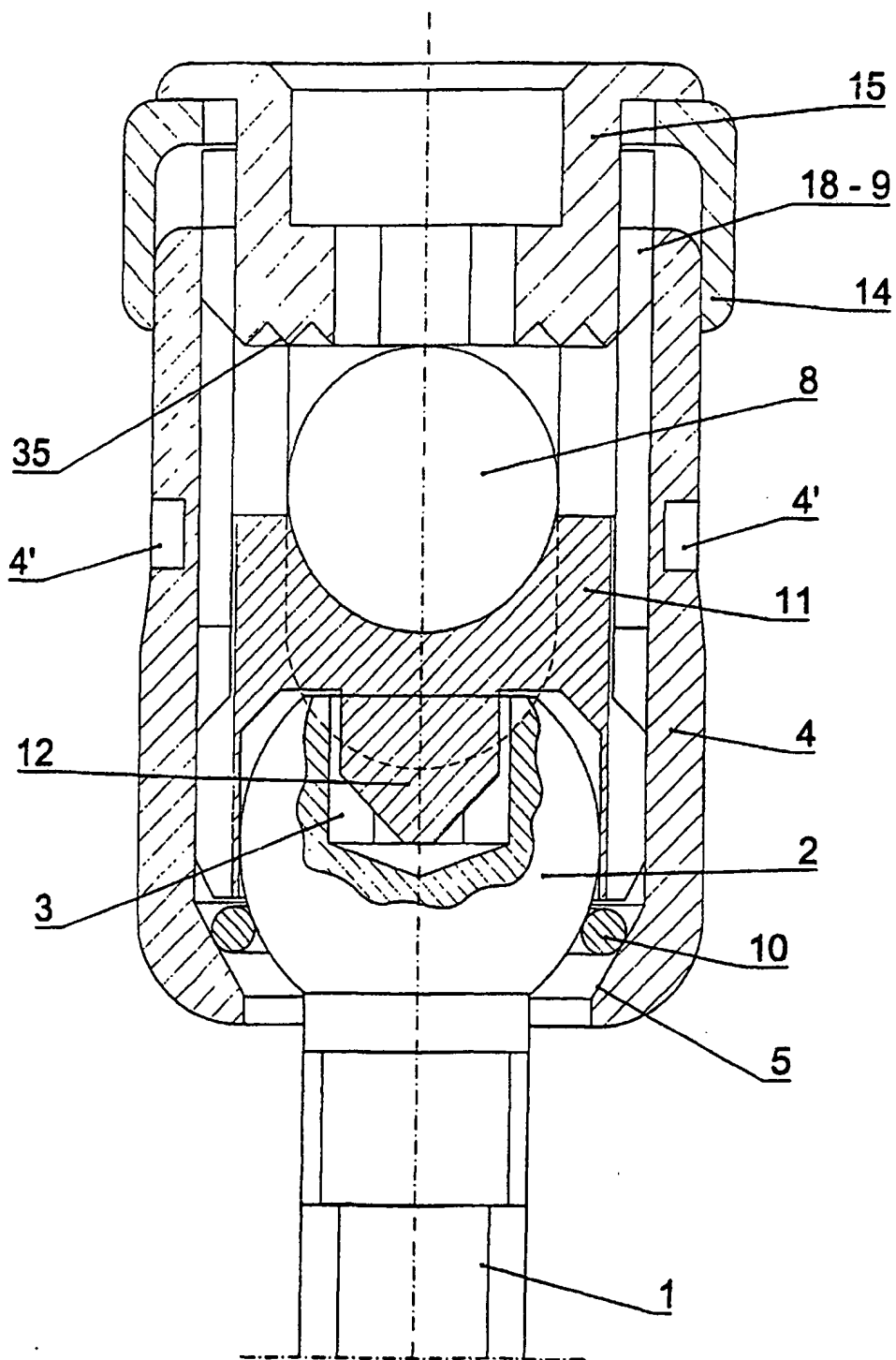


FIG. 2

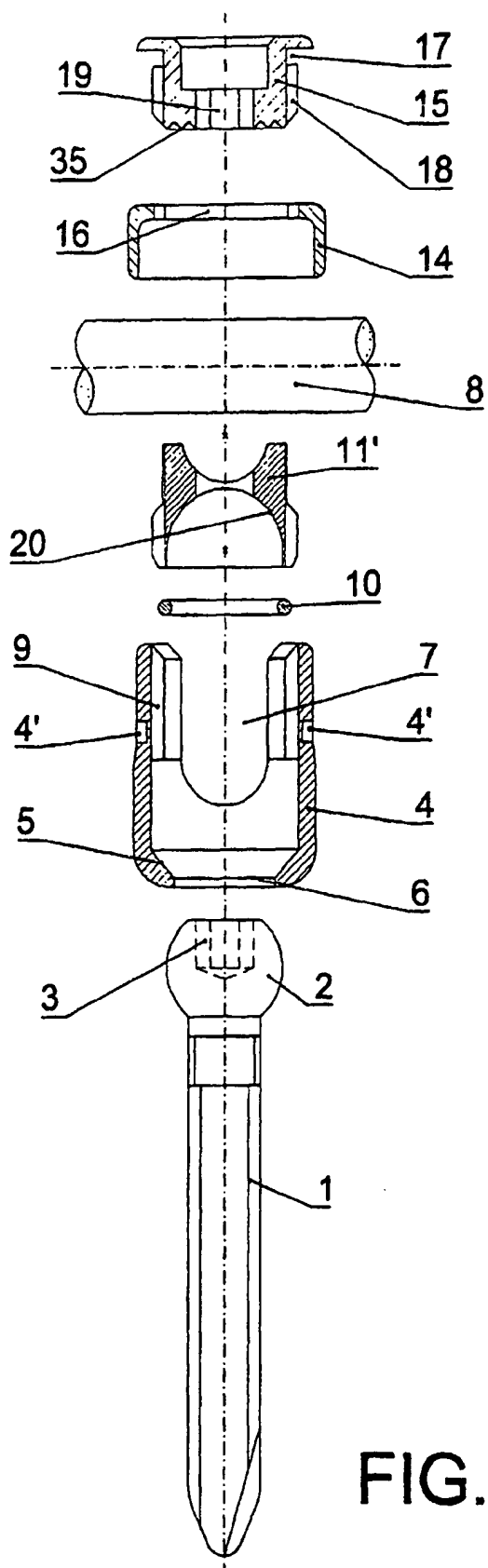


FIG. 3

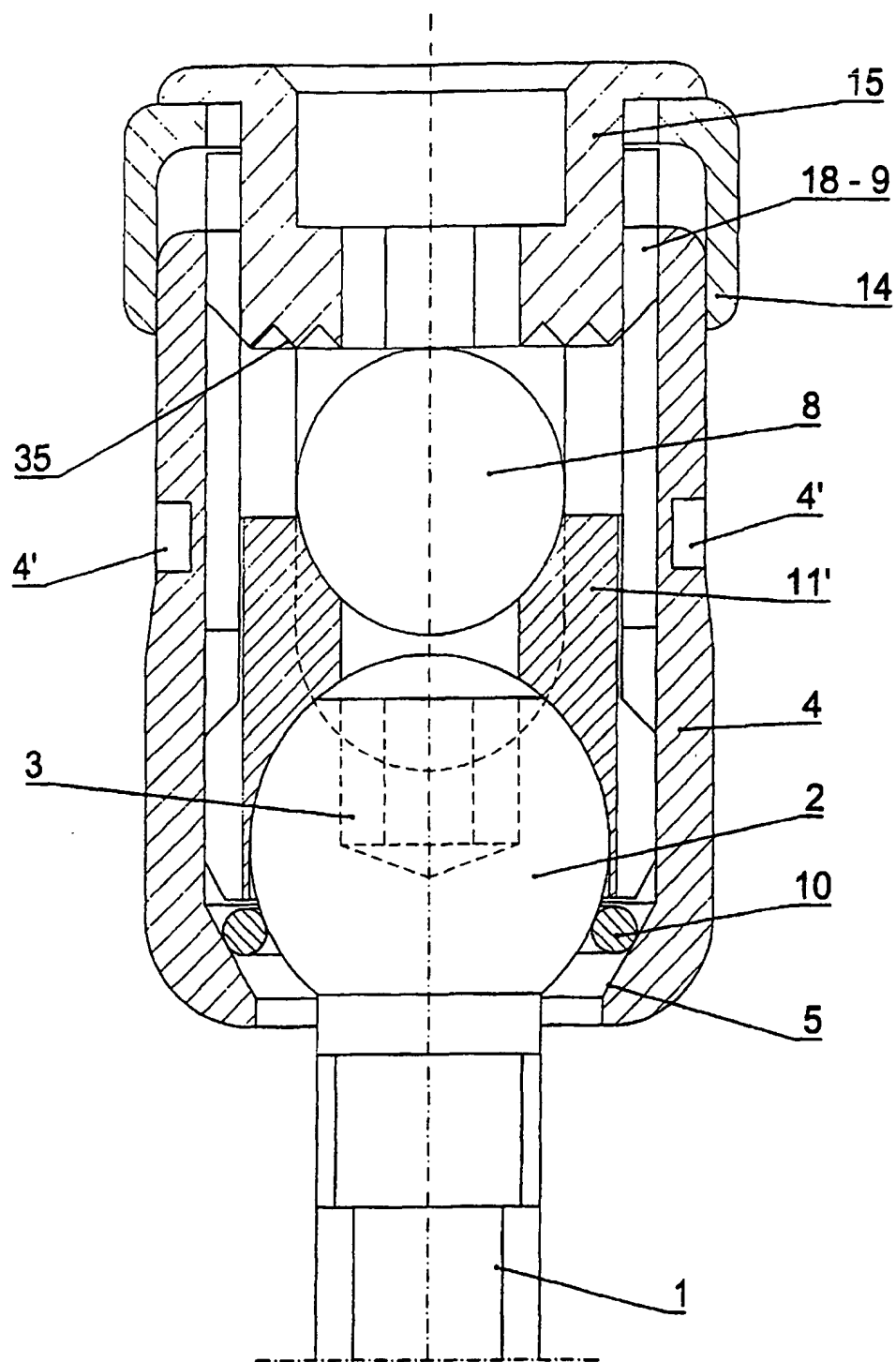


FIG. 4

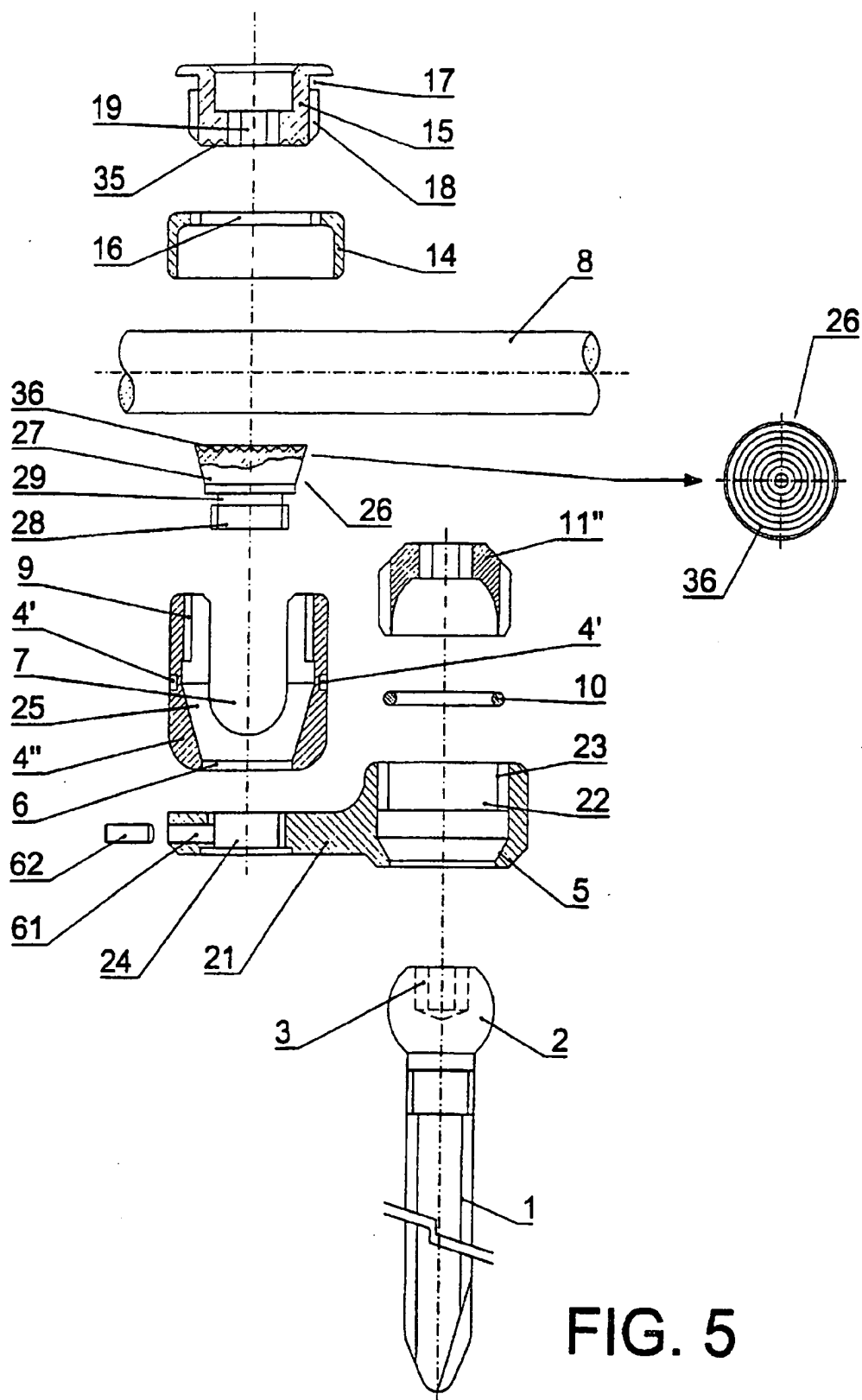


FIG. 5

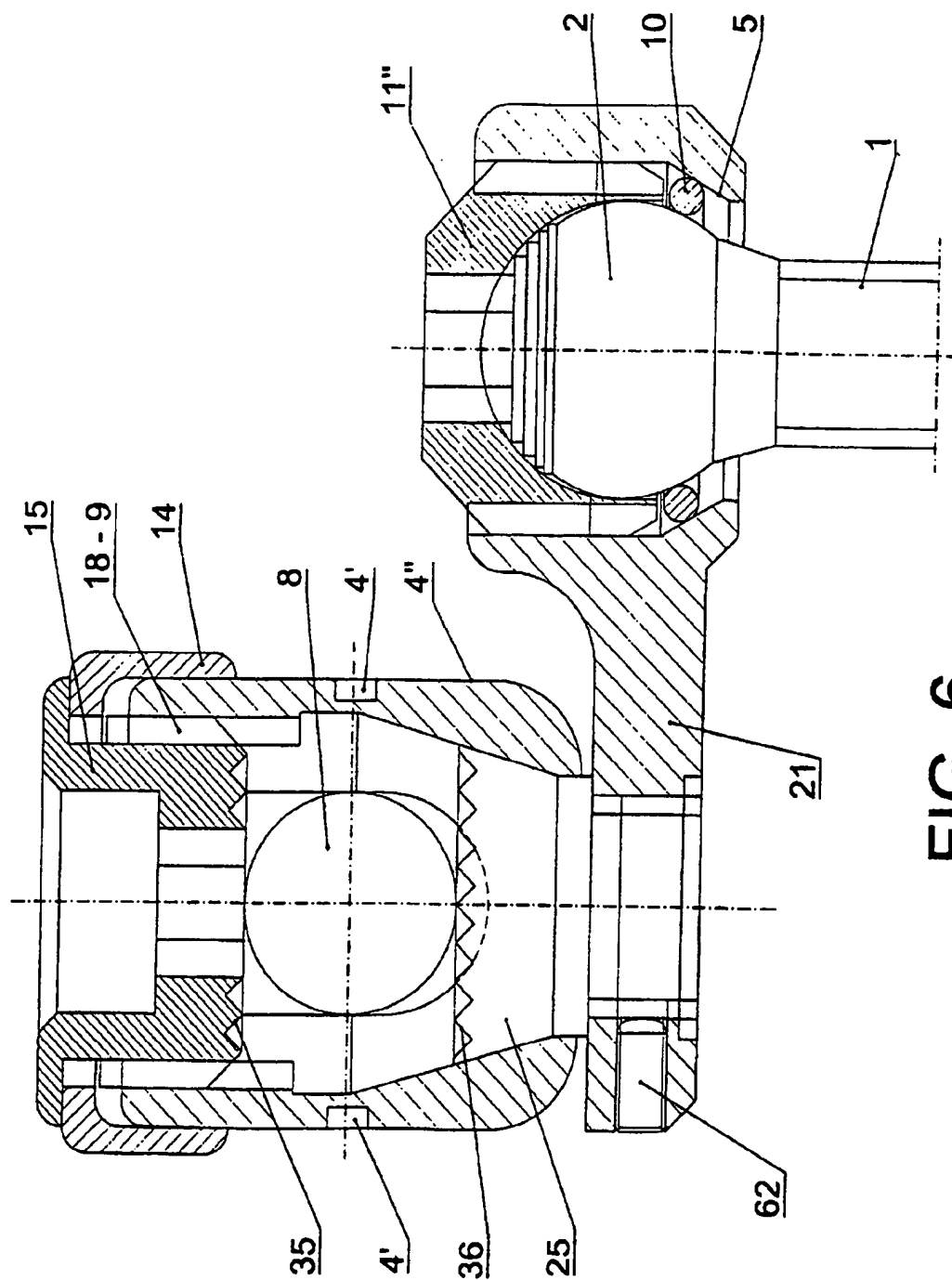


Fig. 6

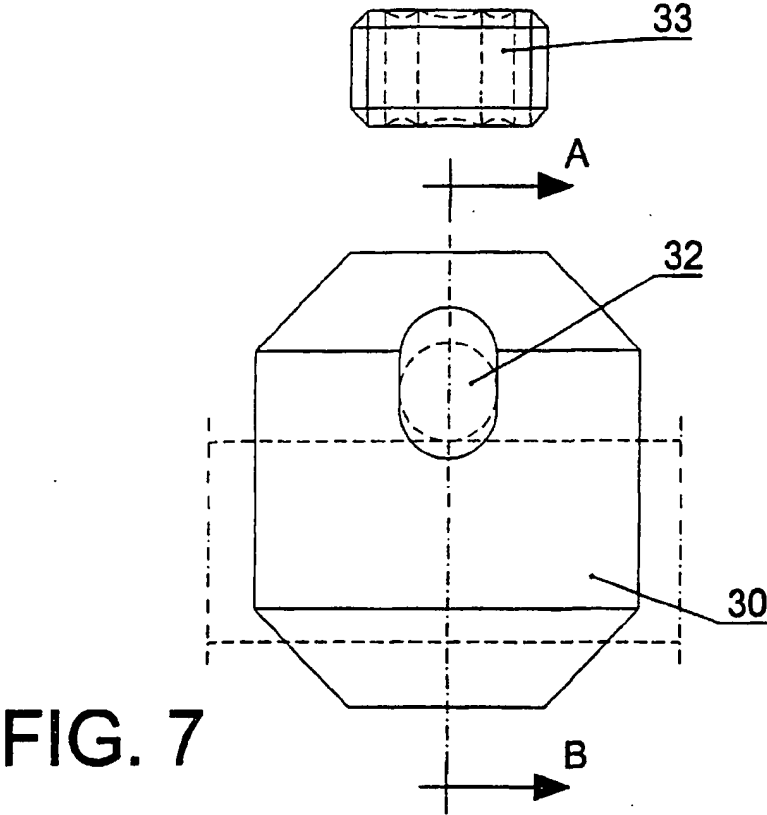
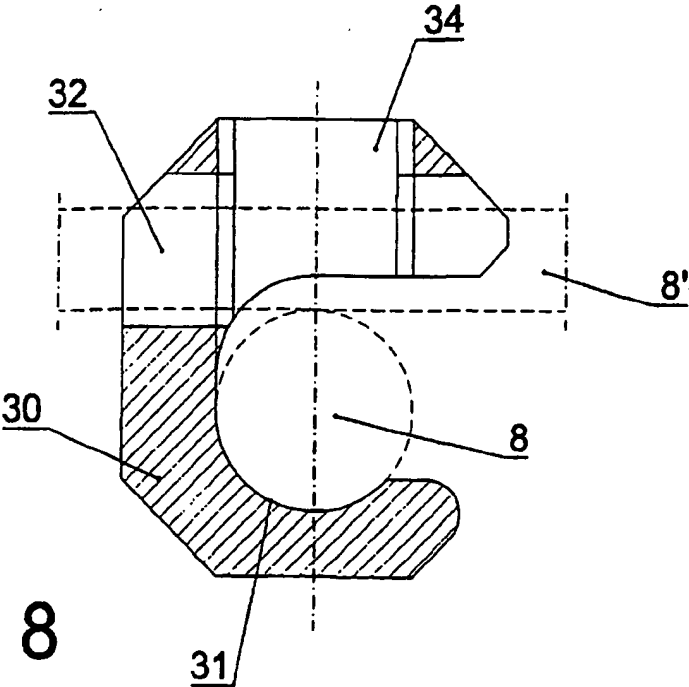


FIG. 7



A-B  
FIG. 8

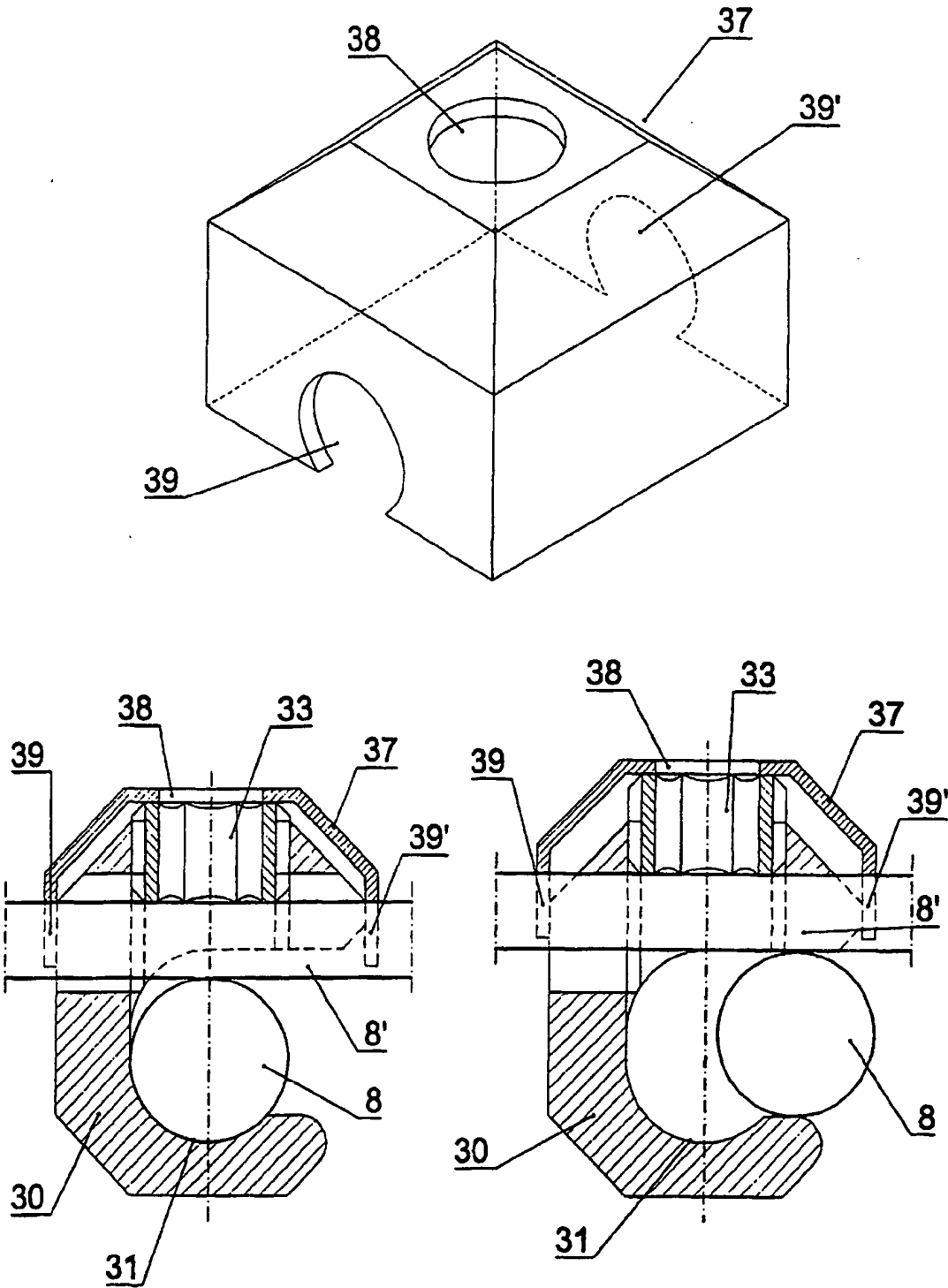


FIG. 9

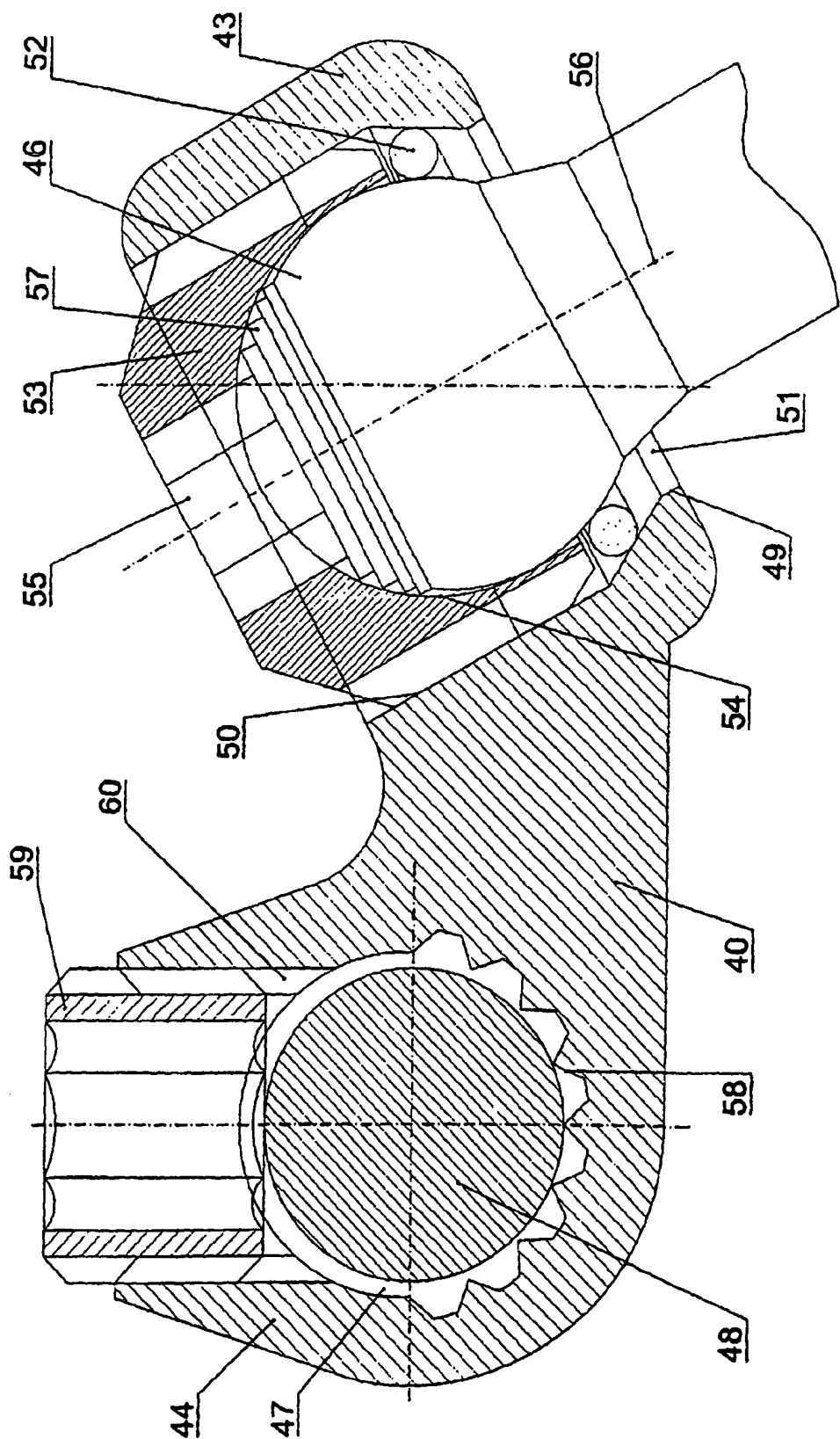


FIG. 10



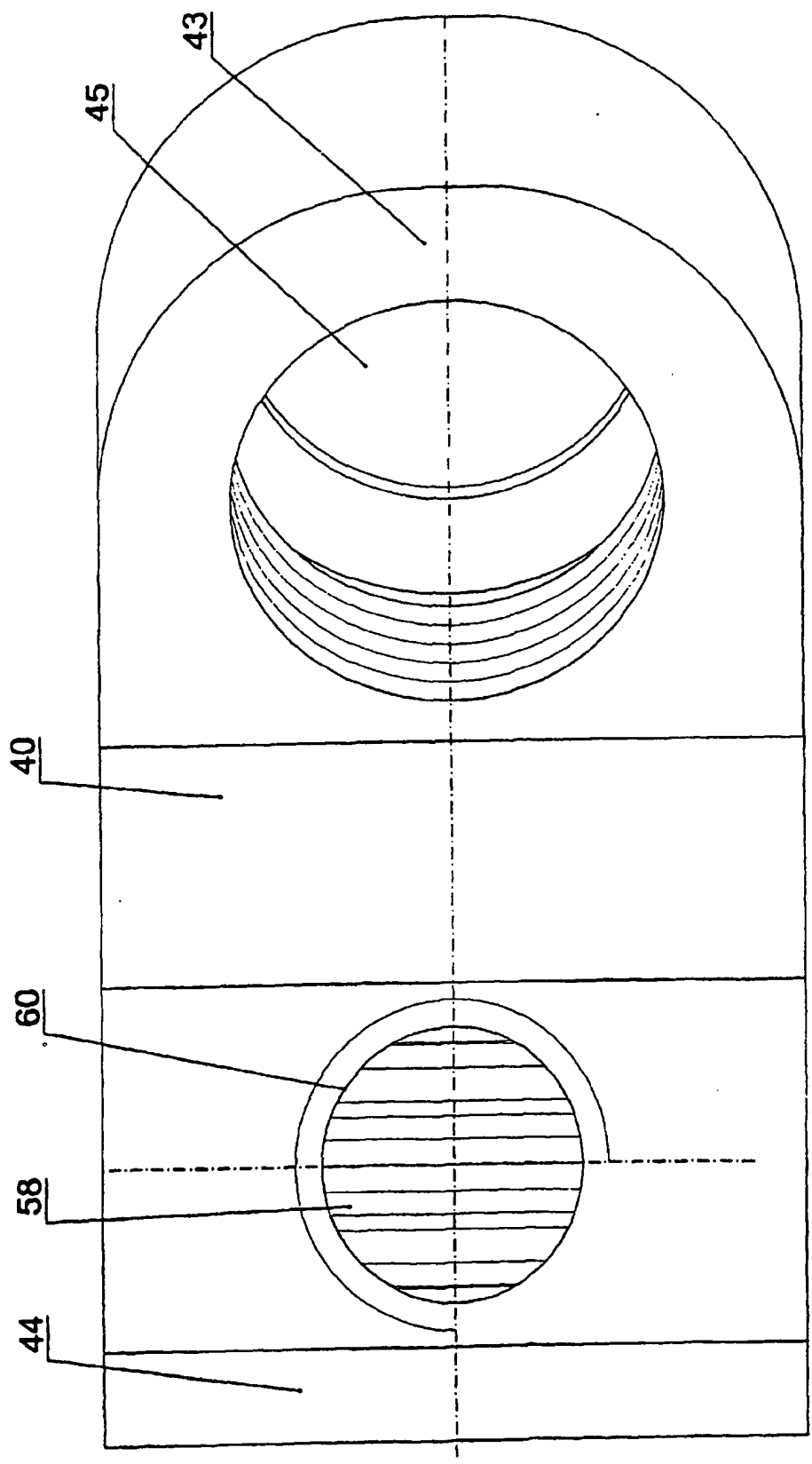
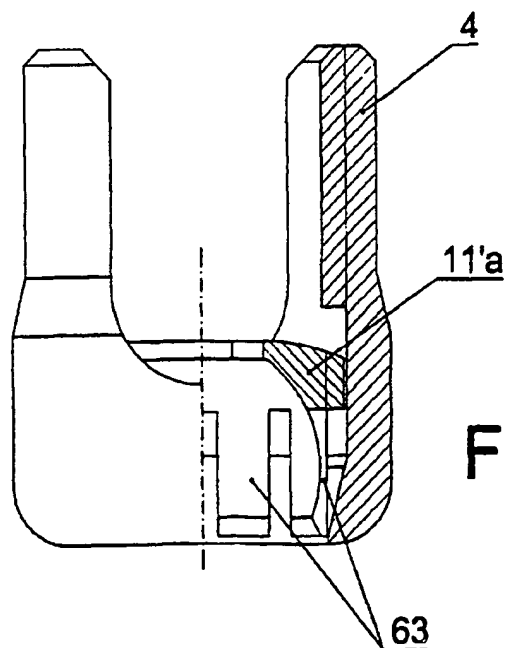
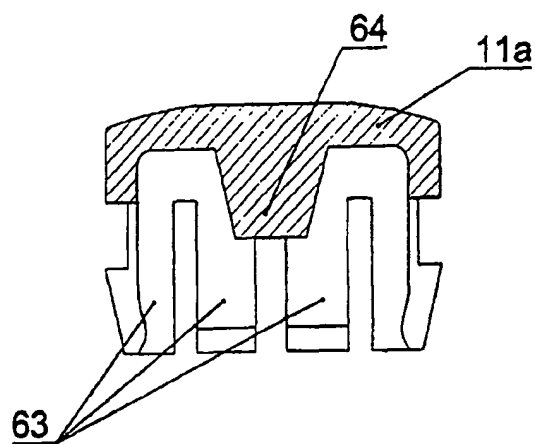
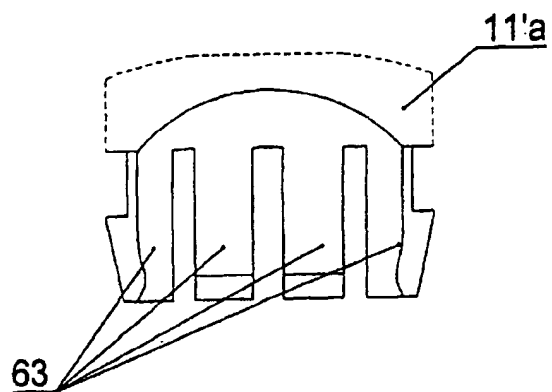


FIG. 11



## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/ ES 00/00310

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b>		
IPC 7 A61B 17/70		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)		
IPC 7 A61B		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)		
CIBEPAT, EPODOC, WPI, PAJ		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 19720782 A1 (SPARIN & RÖHL & HENSELER) 19 November 1998 (19.11.98), see the whole document	1-3,6-9
A	WO 9834554 A (SDGI HOLDINGS) 13 August 1998 (13.08.98), see the whole document	1-3,6,9
A	US5681319 A (BIEDERMANN) 28 October 1997 (28.10.97), see the whole document	1-3,6,9
A	WO 9844859 A1 (DIMSO) 15 October 1998 (15.10.98), see the whole document	4,5
A	US 5899903 A (COTREL) 04 May 1999 (04.05.99), see the whole document	7
A	US 5733285 A (ERRICO ET AL) 31 March 1998 (31.03.98), see the whole document	15
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
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Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report
20 October 2000 (20.10.00)		08 November 2000 (08.11.00)
Name and mailing address of the ISA/  S. P. T. O		Authorized officer
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**  
 Information on patent family members

 International Application No  
**PCT/ ES 00/00310**

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
DE 19720782 A1	19.11.1998	WO 9852482 A1 ZA 9804064 A AU 3022397 A EP 0984730 A1 CN 1254266 A	26.11.1998 24.02.1999 11.12.1998 15.03.2000 24.05.2000
WO 9834554 A1	13.08.1998	AU 6157698 A US 5885286 A EP 0986338 A1	26.08.1998 23.03.1999 22.03.2000
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WO 9844859 A1	15.10.1998	FR 2761590 A1 AU 7338098 A EP 0971639 A1	09.10.1998 30.10.1998 19.01.2000
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US 5733285 A	31.03.1998	NONE	

## INFORME DE BÚSQUEDA INTERNACIONAL

Solicitud internacional n°  
PCT/ES 00/00310

<b>A. CLASIFICACIÓN DEL OBJETO DE LA SOLICITUD</b>		
CIP <sup>7</sup> A61B 17/70 De acuerdo con la Clasificación Internacional de Patentes (CIP) o según la clasificación nacional y la CIP.		
<b>B. SECTORES COMPRENDIDOS POR LA BÚSQUEDA</b>		
Documentación mínima consultada (sistema de clasificación, seguido de los símbolos de clasificación) CIP <sup>7</sup> A61B		
Otra documentación consultada, además de la documentación mínima, en la medida en que tales documentos formen parte de los sectores comprendidos por la búsqueda		
Bases de datos electrónicas consultadas durante la búsqueda internacional (nombre de la base de datos y, si es posible, términos de búsqueda utilizados) CIBEPAT, EPODOC, WPI, PAJ		
<b>C. DOCUMENTOS CONSIDERADOS RELEVANTES</b>		
Categoría*	Documentos citados, con indicación, si procede, de las partes relevantes	Relevante para las reivindicaciones n°
A	DE 19720782 A1 (SPARIN & RÖHL & HENSELER) 19.11.1998, todo el documento	1-3,6-9
A	WO 9834554 A (SDGI HOLDINGS) 13.08.1998, todo el documento	1-3,6,9
A	US5681319 A (BIEDERMANN) 28.10.1997, todo el documento	1-3,6,9
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A	US 5899903 A (COTREL) 04.05.1999, todo el documento	7
A	US 5733285 A (ERRICO ET AL) 31.03.1998, todo el documento	15
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Fecha en que se ha concluido efectivamente la búsqueda internacional. 20 Octubre 2000 (20.10.2000)		Fecha de expedición del informe de búsqueda internacional 08 NOV 2000 08.11.00
Nombre y dirección postal de la Administración encargada de la búsqueda internacional O.E.P.M. C/Panamá 1, 28071 Madrid, España. n° de fax +34 91 3495304		Funcionario autorizado F. JAVIER HAERING n° de teléfono + 34 91 3495473

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Solicitud internacional n°

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WO 9834554 A1	13.08.1998	AU 6157698 A US 5885286 A EP 0986338 A1	26.08.1998 23.03.1999 22.03.2000
US 5681319 A	28.10.1997	DE 19507141 A1	12.09.1996
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US 5733285 A	31.03.1998	NINGUNO	